

The Journal of Natal and Zulu History...is retiring!

CFP for an unusual Festschrift

Since 1978, as the departmental journal of History at the University of Natal (later UKZN) the *Journal of Natal and Zulu History* has published articles illuminating aspects of the past in the region now called KwaZulu-Natal. The year 2018 saw a relaunch of the journal with Taylor and Francis, after a three-year hiatus following the radical and sudden diminishing of the History Department at the Howard College Campus of UKZN. Yet, further unforeseen circumstances have shortened the success of this venture, after two very strong issues.

Now, with the assistance of the editors of the *South African Historical Journal* and Taylor and Francis, the journal will be retiring and we are planning for its ULTIMATE issue! The journal will remain as an online archive, available via the SAHJ site.

In celebration of the Journal and to acknowledge the value of this title and its own history, the Editorial Collective welcomes both traditional article contributions as well as short reflective pieces for its final bumper issue.

Articles

Article submissions of 6 000 – 8 000 words should include themes that address the unique features of the geographical and social terrain of the south-eastern coastal region of Africa – as a site of encounter, settlement and mobility, as well as its influences further afield. We invite papers that investigate politics, production and private life; migration and identity; religion and culture; gender and sexuality; labour and class; institutions and biography; as well on land, law, love, and violence.

Reflective Pieces

We would especially like to urge historians and cognate specialists who have been authors, editors, readers of the journal to submit short reflective papers of 500-1000 words. We are interested in submissions that comment on the significance of the journal, the department, the history of the region, the historiographical themes it contained – and that reflect on the questions we, as collective scholars and thinkers, feel are especially crucial, both for revisiting earlier work and for new directions. We welcome contributions that make strong, substantiated cases inclusive of, but not limited to, the following:

- What aspects of KZN history represented in this journal have been most significant?
- In what ways did the journal change with the times and the scholarship coming out of the local and overseas universities in different periods?
- In what sense has the journal “launched” the early ideas and work of scholars who have proved important to the broader history of the region?
- In what areas did it most usefully contribute new thinking?
- In a climate of heavy theory, what place does empirical local history hold for the future? Who is writing those histories today, and what part of the world are they coming from?
- What is needed, in the way of methodological training, to ensure critical, intellectual and social history in this part of the world?
- If you are in a position to reflect on numerous articles published in JNZH as an early career scholar, what core ideas do these articles convey and how did they enable later work and thinking?

To this end, we invite scholars and friends of the JNZH to support the Journal’s swan song. If you are intending on submitting an article or reflection piece, please send us a note of interest by the end of February 2021. Final submissions will be due by 30 April 2021.

All correspondence to Nafisa Essop Sheik: nafisa.sheik@gmail.com
or Prinisha Badassy: prinisha.badassy@wits.ac.za
More information here:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rnzh20/current>

JOURNAL OF
NATAL
AND **ZULU**
HISTORY